

#### National Republican Congressional Committee



2000 JUL 20 A 11: 10

Donald F. McGahn II General Counsel

MUR 5053.

July 19, 2000

Lawrence M. Noble, Esq. General Counsel Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, NW Washington, DC 20463 Jul 20 2 47 PM '00

Re: Complaint Against Cal Dooley and Dooley for Congress

Dear Mr. Noble:

The National Republican Congressional Committee, by and through its General Counsel, hereby brings this complaint pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(1) against Cal Dooley and Dooley for Congress. The National Republican Congressional Committee is located at 320 First Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003.

#### I. VIOLATIONS

Cal Dooley is the fifth-term Representative from the twentieth district of California, and is seeking re-election this November. Dooley for Congress is his principal campaign committee.

320 First Street, S.E. Washington, D.C. 20003 (202)479-7069 www.nrcc.org

#### A. Acceptance of Prohibited Corporate Funds

Dooley's recently filed FEC report reveals that he accepted \$10,000 from an entity called "HCC Properties, Ltd." Under California law, "Limited" (commonly abbreviated "Ltd.") denotes a corporation. See California Corporate Code § 202(a). Moreover, local news reports indicate that HCC Properties Ltd. "is Hilmar Cheese Company." The Fresno Bee (7/19/00) (attached). The full name of Hilmar is Hilmar Cheese Company, Inc., and is filed as a corporation with the California Secretary of State. Thus, Dooley accepted \$10,000 in prohibited corporate funds.

When confronted with this illegality, Dooley claimed that any such charge is "false." The next day, however, Dooley's story changed – he now calls it an "oversight." The Fresno Bee (7/19/00). Such doubletalk, coupled with the clear indication that the source of the funds was corporate, indicates that the violation is knowing and willful.

### B. Even If the Funds Were From a Partnership or Other Non-Corporate Entity, Dooley Still Broke the Law

Commission regulations state that "[a] contribution from a partnership shall not exceed the limitations on contributions in 11 C.F.R. § 110.1(b), (c), and (d)." 11 C.F.R. § 110.1(b) limits such contributions to \$1,000 per election. Thus, even if made from a partnership, the \$10,000 contribution is still unlawful, and a violation of these provisions.

#### II. CONCLUSION

Cal Dooley has violated the law by accepting corporate money. Perhaps most shocking about this revelation is that just over a week ago, Dooley attempted to take his challenger to task regarding "tainted money," while at the same time taking credit for campaign finance-related legislation passed by the Republican-controlled Congress. Perhaps Dooley ought to read his own words, and live by them:

In the spirit of this new bipartisan commitment to reform, I would urge you to disassociate yourself from this tactic, and play straight with the people of the 20<sup>th</sup> district. This is money you can choose to accept or reject. As an acknowledgment of the importance of our campaign finance laws, I urge you to reject it.

For the foregoing reasons, the National Republican Congressional Committee respectfully requests that the Commission find there is a reason to believe that a violation has occurred, and promptly investigate the matter. The NRCC also asks that the Commission institute civil proceedings in an appropriate Federal court, and secure an appropriate civil fine for this knowing and willful violation.

The foregoing is correct and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald F. McGahn II

District of Columbia
Signed and sworn to before me this
day of July, 2000.

Notary Public

My Commission expires:

M.D. ACTON

Natury Public, District of Cubustin

No. Commission Express July 14, 2004

#### SCHEDULE A

#### ITEMIZED RECEIPTS

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\$13550.00 SUBTOTAL of Receipts This Page (optional) TOTAL This Period (last page this line number only)

# Dooley, Rodriguez dueling for dollars

The incumbent congressman says he is 'prepared to have to raise \$1 million.'

> BY JOHN ELLIS THE FRESNO BEE

The battle for the 20th Congressional District seat held since 1990 by Cal Dooley, a Hanford Democrat is starting to look like one of the most expensive in the district's history

Already, Rich Rodriguez, Dooley's Republican opponent, is on a clip to raise more money than any other

Dooley challenger.

For the reporting period that ended July 15, Rodriguez reported \$230,000 cash on hand. During the past six months, he has raised \$321,000. By comparison, Trice Harvey — Dooley's formidable 1996 opponent — raised a total of \$505,054.

"Unbelievable," said Joe Galli, Rodriguez's campaign manager. "Who would have thought it? In six months."

Rodriguez was not available to comment.

Despite his eye-popping amount — and the fund-raising success it suggests - Rodriguez is still far behind Dooley in the fund-raising sweepstakes.

Dooley, proving himself an effective fund-raiser, reported \$659,851 cash on hand. "I'm prepared to have to raise \$1 million," Dooley said. "I will raise it, and I am well on my way to doing it."

Already, he has raised more money than in his past

re-election efforts.

What it all means is the congressional race could be one of the most interesting in the nation as the Democrats battle to retake control of the House. Already, several high-profile members of Congress have come to the Valley to stump for Rodriguez. Dooley, who has downplayed the challenge, is nevertheless raising money at an aggressive clip.

And as the fund-raising has heated up, so has the

acrimony.

Galli continued his claim that most of Dooley's money - 89% - is coming from outside the Valley. "That speaks volumes to the district, to where the support is in this campaign."

Dooley countered by pointing out that, while the organizations may not be locally based, they represent local interests. He also made public a long list of local donors — a list that included several prominent devel-

Please see MONEY, Page B3



Cal **Dooley** 



Rich Rodriguez

# The Fresno Presno 7/10/00

## Money: Rodriguez camp points out error in Dooley's statement

Continued from Page B1 opers, farmers and business owners, including Richard Gunner, Ed Kashian, Edward Donaghy

and John Harris.

In disputing the 89% figure, Dooley cited Sunkist, based in Sherman Oaks, the National Cotton Council, based in Washington D.C., and Kraft Foods, the No. 1 employer in the district, as organizations outside the district, but that have significant interests within it. All have supported

And, Dooley claimed, Rodriguez siolicited donations from, and was rejected, by these same organiz: itions, and is relying on the Re publican political power base

in Washington for support.
That's ridiculous," Galli said. "Rich has the support of a lot of individual donors in this commu-

Rodriguez's camp also found an error in Dooley's campaign statement — a \$10,000 donation from HCC Properties Ltd., which is Hilmar Cheese Co. A partnership is limited to a \$1,000 donation. But the HCC donation is from multiple partners at the company, Dooley said. In that case, a list of the donors and the amount they contributed is required by law.

Galli called it "an egregious error by a career politican who should know better," but Dooley said it was an oversight and an amended report would be filed. "We will ensure that information is provided," he said. "Clearly, it was an oversight. There is a difference between oversight and something clearly illegal." ...





#### Bill Jones

Disclaimer: The information displayed here is current as of "Jul 15, 2000" and is updated weekly. It is not a complete or certified record of the Corporation.

Corporation				
HILMAR CHEESE COMPANY, INC.				
Number: C1245565	<b>Date Filed: 4/30/1984</b>	Status: active		
Jurisdiction: California				
Mailing Address				
PO BOX 910				
HILMAR, CA 95324				
Agent for Service of Process				
JOHN JETER				
9001 N LANDER AVE				
HILMAR, CA 95324				

- For information about certification of corporate records or for additional corporate information, please refer to Corporate Records.
- Blank fields indicate the information is not contained in the computer file.
- If the status of the corporation is "Surrender", the agent for service of process is automatically revoked. Please refer to California Corporations Code Section 2114 for information relating to service upon corporations that have surrendered.

New California Business Search

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Business Filings Section - Corporations Unit